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in re the Application of: **OKAJIMA**, **Tadashi**Group Art Unit: 2653

Serial No.: 09/650,757 Examiner: William R. KORZUCH

Filed: **August 30, 2000**

For: **DISK APPARATUS**

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DEC 1 3 2002

PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(b) Technology

Technology Center 2600

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

December 12, 2002

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached.

No fee or certification is required in connection with this Information Disclosure Statement, since it is being submitted prior to the issuance of a first official action on the merits or expiration of the three month period following the filing date or the entry of the national stage of the above-captioned application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge our Deposit Account No. 01-2340 for any fee which is deemed by the Patent and Trademark Office to be required to effect consideration of this statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ARMSTRONG, WESTERMAN & HATTORI, LLP

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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Enclosures:

PTO-1449

references (4)

Copy of JP Office Action dated October 8, 2002

ACEMNFORMATION **DISCLOSURE CITATION** PTO-1449

Atty. Docket No. 001111

Serial No. 09/650,757

Applicant(s): OKAJIMA, Tadashi

Filing Date: August 30, 2000

Group Art Unit: 2653

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial		Document No.	Name	Date	Class	Subclass	Filing Date (If appropriate)
	AA						
<u> </u>	AB					RECE	IVED
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	Document No.	Date	Country	Translation (Yes or No)
 AF	5-325209	12/10/1993	Japan	Abstract
 AG	9-167359	06/24/1997	Japan	Abstract
 AH	8-339547	12/24/1996	Japan	Abstract
 AI	11-73650	03/16/1999	Japan	Abstract
AJ				

OTHER DOCUMENTS

	AK AL	Copy of Japanese Patent Office Action for corresponding Japanese Patent Application 11-250525 dated October 8, 2002.
	AL	
Examiner		Date Considered